

**Clarendon County Special Called Meeting  
Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 9:00 am  
Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC**

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**Those in attendance:**

Chairman, Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.  
Vice Chairman WJ Frierson, Sr.  
Councilman, Billy Richardson  
Councilman, Benton Blakely  
County Administrator, David W. Epperson  
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: Councilman, AC English, Jr.

Media: None

**Others in attendance included:**

Lynden Anthony (CFO)                      Ted Felder (Deputy Administrator)

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:03 am and led the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**I. Emergency Ordinance 2020-04**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the Emergency Ordinance 2020-04 – An Ordinance which states Clarendon County Council Declaration of Public Health Emergency in Response to the Public Safety Threat of the Novel Coronavirus (“Covid-19”), Effective March 18, 2020. He stated that this is something that we have never dealt with before. Administrator Epperson stated that there is a State of Emergency for the State of South Carolina and a National Emergency. He continued by stating that we have not had any confirmed cases of Coronavirus in Clarendon County but with Interstate 95 running through Clarendon County that’s subject to change.

Administrator Epperson continued by stating that we have made steps to recognize essential and non-essential department. What offices we will be keeping open and what offices would be on a limited staffing. We have determined that Archives and Weldon would be on limited operation only. He continued by stating that the following essential departments would be on limited staffing: Assessor, Auditor, Treasurer, Veterans’ Affairs, Register of Deeds, Planning, Fleet Maintenance, Development Board, Engineering, Finance, Grants, Procurement, Recreation, Voter’s Registration and Information Technology.

Administrator Epperson stated that the Sheriff’s Department, E911, Facilities, Detention, Coroner, and Public Works would remain fully staffed. He stated that all recreational activities are cancelled, Weldon Schedules are cancelled, and the Planning Commission postponed their regular

monthly meeting for March. He continued by stating that all members with a participant of 10 or more would be postpone. He continued by stating that this situation is very fluid, and plans changes for day to day. We are asking the public to limit their visits, pay taxes online, record deeds online, and work through email by scanning and faxing documents.

Administrator Epperson further stated that if some is quarantined by Doctor's order or send home by Administration they would be paid in full. If an employee is absent, they would have to use sick or vacation leave to cover the absent. We would allow probational employees to use accrual leave if needed during this time.

- Vice Chairman Frierson asked would employees be allowed to use all accrual leave first and then get paid for hours missed if they are quarantined by a doctor.
- Administrator Epperson replied by stating yes.
- Councilman Richardson asked would Administrator Epperson have authority over all elected official as well.
- Administrator Epperson replied by stating yes.

Administrator Epperson stated that by Law, County Council is required to meet monthly so we are looking into having the April monthly through live screen and no public would be allowed.

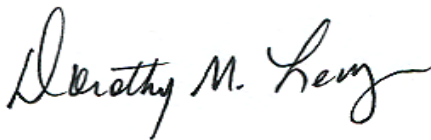
## **II. Adjourn**

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Special Called Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Special Called Council Meeting.

The Special Called Council Meeting adjourned at 9:19 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dorothy M. Levy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dorothy" being the most prominent part.

Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council